Anchamada Pakuthi Cutcherry.

78. *Mr. **Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair** (*Trivandrum and Nedumangad* cum *Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that the Pakuthi Cutcherry at Anchamada is at present located in a rented building;

(*b*) the amount they had to give till this date by way of rent for the said Cutcherry; and

(*c*) the number of years during which the Cutcherry is conducted in a rented building?

Mr. K. Parameswara Panickar: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Rs. 300 till the end of Thulam 1113, at the rate of Rs. 3 per mensem.

(*c*) 8 years and 4 months till the end of Thulam 1113.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether there is a proposal to have the Pakuthi Cutcherry in Government building?

Mr. K. Parameswara Panickar: There is no such proposal at present.

Road from Maruthammoodu to Vattiyoorkavu.

79. * **Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they or the Chief Engineer has received representations praying that the road from Maruthammoodu to Vattiyoorkavu may be repaired; and

(*b*) if the answer to the above question is in the affirmative, whether they have given any replies to those representations?

Mr. S. Sesha Aiyar (*Deputy Chief Engineer*): (*a*) No such petition has been received.

(*b*) In view of the answer to part (*a*) above, this does not arise.

Introduction of the close-shelf system in the Public Library.

80. *Mr. **Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the amount they had to spend in purchasing accessories to suit the open shelf system in the Trivandrum Public Library?

(*b*) why they have introduced the close-shelf system in the Public Library at present;

(*c*) the additional expenses they had to incur for introducing the close-shelf system in the Public Library;

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(*d*) the amount that has been spent for purchasing books for the Library for the years 1110, 1111 and 1112 ;

(*e*) the amount spent for the last three years for purchasing books from the Rock House Book Depot, Madras ; and

(*f*) whether it is a fact that the present Secretary of the Library is related to the Madras agent of the Rock House Depot ?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N Kunjan Pillai (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) The cost of converting the open iron shelves into closed ones and making new glazed almirahs is Rs. 7,525-18-0.

(*b*) To preserve the books from deterioration by exposure to the dust and local atmospheric conditions and to reduce the chances of mutilation and pilfering of books.

(*c*) Rs. 7,525-18-0 for accessories and an annual recurring expenditure of Rs. 396 for additional staff.

(*d*) 1110—Rs. 2,556-19-10.
1111—Rs. 2,741-7-1
1112—Rs. 2,553-13-0

(*e*) 1110—Rs. 758-5-5
1111—Rs. 630-23-11
1112—Rs. 476-18 3

(*f*) Governmet have no information.

Mr. Nedumangad R Kesavan Nair: May I know whether shelves were got down from Oxford for having the open shelf system ?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: I know that some shelves were purchased, but I do not know whether they were imported from Oxford.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : May I know whether in all civilised countries it is not the custom to have open shelf system ?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: I think both systems prevail.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know how long is it since the open shelf system is in vogue in the Trivandrum Public Library ?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: For several years. I cannot now give the exact period.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : With reference to answer to part (*b*), may I know what atmospheric conditions were brought about to necessitate a change in the method of keeping the books ?

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Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: The atmospheric condition of Trivandrum does not contribute to the preservation of books in good condition in open shelves. It has been found that books, on account of moist atmosphere, get spoild very soon, and hence it was decided to keep them in closed shelves.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether there was any change in the local atmosphere that necessitated the change to the closed shelf system?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai There is no change, but the atmospheric condition is not suitable for the preservation of books in open shelves.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether Government are aware that much valuable time is lost by those who resort to the Public Library in the selection of books by adopting the close shelf system?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: Government are not aware.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know the possible expenditure that the Government had to incur as a result of pilfering of books?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: I have not got the exact figures now, but I know that a large number of books were lost on account of pilfering.

Complaints againt the Panachamood market contractor.

81. * **Mr. K. R. Elankath**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have received complaints, through the authorities in the Revenue Department, from the public who frequent the Panachamood Market about the irregular and high-handed actions of the market contractor;

(*b*) the nature of the complaints levelled against the contractor;

(*c*) whether any enquiry was made on the complaints; and

(*d*) if so, the result of the enquiry?

Mr. K. Paramesvara Panickar: (*a*) Yes. Two petitions were received by the Division Peishkar, Trivandrum, on 7-3-1113 and 17-4-1113.

(*b*) The complaints related to the collection of tolls in excess of the rates allowed by the rules.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) It was found that the petitions were the result of ill-will of the previous contractor. However, the Tahsildar has been directed to take steps to guard against such malpractices on the part of the contractor.

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